



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Release: Feb. 24, 2003

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Police Searching for Missing 14-Year-Old Girl *Investigators Believe Runaway May Be in Danger*

Howard County Police are asking for the public's help in the search for a 14-year-old Laurel girl who ran away from home over the weekend. Jessica Brittney Coon was last seen at home in the 8400 block of Leishear Rd. Saturday night and was discovered missing by her family Sunday morning.

Investigators have spoken with Coon's family and friends and are very concerned about her well-being. Coon has a history of running away and police believe she may try to harm herself.

Efforts to locate Coon since her disappearance have been unsuccessful.

Coon is described as a white female with blond hair and hazel eyes, who is five feet, 11 inches tall and weighs 117 lbs. Family members do not know what she was wearing when she left home.

Investigators are urging anyone with information about Coon to contact police at (410) 313-2200.

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